



In the Claims

Please substitute the following amended claims for those currently pending:

1. (currently amended) An endovascular graft comprising an expandable stent portion and a stent cover portion, wherein the stent cover portion is coated on at least the outer surface with a bioactive agent covalently attached by the activation of photoreactive groups provided by the stent cover portion, by the bioactive agent, and/or by a linking agent in the form of a thin, conformal coating in a manner sufficient to ~~promote initial thrombus formation~~ prevent endoleaking.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) A graft according to claim 1 wherein the stent cover portion is prepared from a porous material selected from PET and ePTFE and the bioactive agent comprises collagen.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (original) A graft according to claim 1 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of proteins having a specific hemostatic effect, and positively charged compounds having a nonspecific hemostatic effect.

7. (previously presented) A graft according to claim 6 wherein the agent comprises a protein or the active portions and domains of a protein selected from the group consisting of collagen, thrombin, fibrinogen, elastin and von Willebrand factor.

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled).

RECEIVED  
APR 14 2004  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

10. (currently amended) An endovascular graft comprising an expandable stent portion and a porous stent cover portion selected from PET and ePTFE, the porous stent cover portion being coated with a bioactive agent comprising collagen, wherein the collagen is covalently attached in a thin, conformal coating to the porous stent cover portion in a manner sufficient to prevent endoleaking and promote initial thrombus formation followed by long term fibrous tissue ingrowth, and wherein the coating is covalently attached by the activation of photoreactive groups provided by the porous stent cover portion, by the bioactive agent, and/or by a linking agent.

11. (currently amended) A method of preparing an endovascular graft comprising an expandable stent portion and a stent cover portion, comprising the step of coating at least the outer surface of the stent cover portion with a bioactive agent that is covalently attached by the activation of photoreactive groups provided by the stent cover portion, by the bioactive agent, and/or by a linking agent in the form of a thin, conformal coating in a manner sufficient to promote initial thrombus formation prevent endoleaking.

12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented) A method according to claim 11 wherein the stent cover portion is prepared from a porous material selected from PET and ePTFE and the bioactive agent comprises collagen.

14. (canceled)

15. (canceled)

16. (previously presented) A method according to claim 11 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of proteins having a specific hemostatic effect, and positively charged compounds having a nonspecific hemostatic effect.

17. (previously presented) A method according to claim 16 wherein the agent comprises a protein or the active portions and domains of a protein selected from the group consisting of collagen, thrombin, fibrinogen, elastin, and von Willebrand factor.

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (previously presented) A method of preventing endoleaking in the course of deploying and using an endovascular graft that comprises an expandable stent portion and a stent cover, the method comprising the step of first coating the stent cover in the manner of claim 11.